

How can I open a text file using VBA?

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Opening a text file using VBA (Visual Basic for Applications) can be achieved by utilizing the built-in "Open" command. This command allows the user to specify the file path and access mode, such as read or write, and then manipulate the file's contents using VBA code. Additionally, the "FileSystemObject" library can also be used to open and read text files in a more versatile manner. By using these methods, users can easily open and work with text files in VBA for various purposes, such as data manipulation and analysis.

Open a Text File Using VBA (With Example)

You can use the `OpenTextFile` method in VBA to open a text file from a specific file path.

Here is one common way to use this method in practice:

```
Sub ReadTextFile()
```

```
Dim FSO As New FileSystemObject
```

```
Set FSO = CreateObject("Scripting.FileSystemObject")
```

```
'specify path to text file  
Set MyTextFile =  
FSO.OpenTextFile("C:UsersbobDesktopMyTextFile.txt",  
ForReading)
```

```
'open text file and display contents in cell A1
```

```
TxtString = MyTextFile.ReadAll
```

```
MyTextFile.Close
```

```
ThisWorkbook.Sheets(1).Range("A1").Value = TxtString
```

End Sub

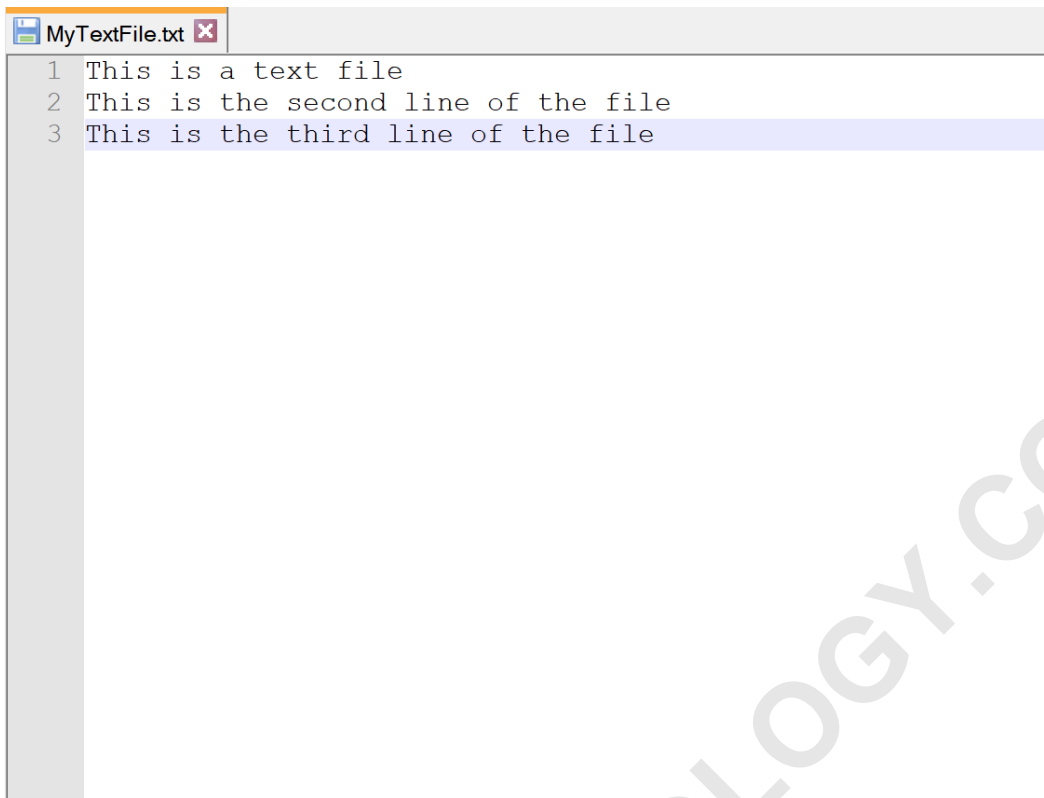
This particular macro reads the text file called MyTextFile.txt located on the Desktop of my computer and displays the contents of the file in cell A1.

The following example shows how to use this syntax to read a text file in practice.

Example: How to Open a Text File Using VBA

Suppose we have a text file called MyTextFile.txt located on the Desktop that we'd like to read into Excel using VBA.

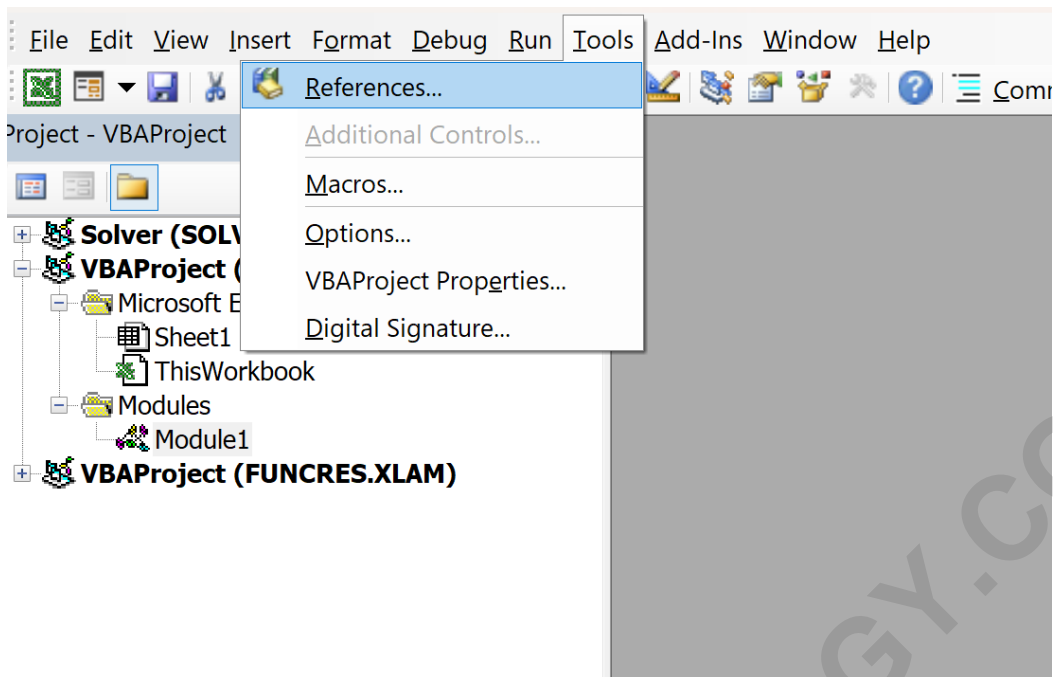
Here are the contents of the file:



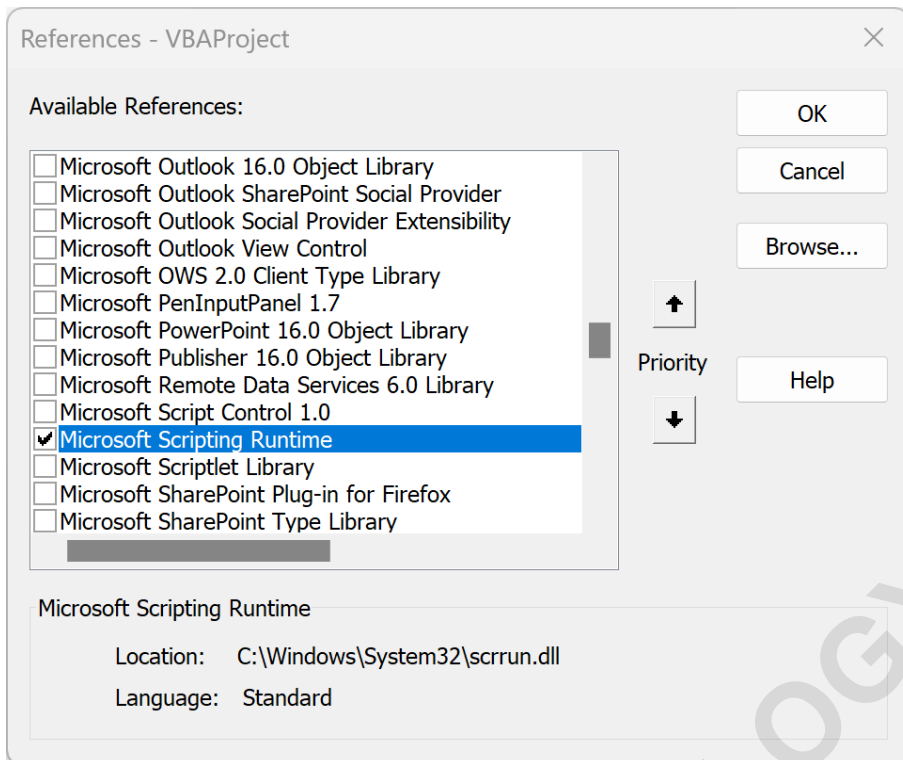
```
MyTextFile.txt x
1 This is a text file
2 This is the second line of the file
3 This is the third line of the file
```

Before using VBA to read this file, we need to first enable Microsoft Scripting Runtime within the VB Editor.

To do so, open the VB Editor, then click Tools, then click References:



In the new window that appears, scroll down until you see Microsoft Scripting Runtime and check the box next to it. Then click OK.



Next, we can create the following macro to read a text file:

Sub ReadTextFile()

Dim FSO As New FileSystemObject

Set FSO = CreateObject("Scripting.FileSystemObject")

**'specify path to text file
Set MyTextFile =
FSO.OpenTextFile("C:\Users\bob\Desktop\MyTextFile.txt",
ForReading)**

'open text file and display contents in cell A1

```
TxtString = MyTextFile.ReadAll
```

```
MyTextFile.Close
```

```
ThisWorkbook.Sheets(1).Range("A1").Value = TxtString
```

```
End Sub
```

Once we run this macro, the contents of the text file called **MyTextFile.txt** will be displayed in cell A1:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	This is a text file This is the second line of the file This is the third line of the file						
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							

Notice that the contents of cell A1 match the contents

from the text file.

Note: You can find the complete documentation for the `OpenTextFile` method .

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